Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15 STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 ICA-11 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15 /166 W

R 052330Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6930
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY MEXICO
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
AMCONSUL MONTREAL POUCH
AMCONSUL TORONTO POUCH

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PASS USDA

GENEVA ALSO FOR USNTM

BRUSSELS FOR USEC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, CA

SUBJECT: CCC SALE OF NFDM FOR NON-COMMERCIAL USES

REF: STATE 84139

1. CANADIAN PRESS CARRIED REPORT APRIL 5 OF REMARKS BY AGRICULTURE MINISTER WHELAN MADE APRIL 4 TO PRINCE EDWARD FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE, MEETING IN BLOOMFIELD, ONTARIO, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CHARGING THAT "U.S. IS INTERFERING WITH MARKET" IN MEXICO FOR NON-FAT DRY MILK (NFDM) FROM QUEBEC. WHELAN REPORTEDLY SAID U.S., IN DOING SO, WAS BREAKING A COMMITMENT AND THAT GOC WILL NEGOTIATE TO CURTAIL SHIPMENTS. BUT IF UNSUCCESSFUL, CANADA "WILL SETTLE THROUGH GATT IN GENEVA". CANADA WILL CONSIDER CHARGING ANY LOSSES IT SUFFERS TO U.S. GOVERNMENT HE SAID.

- 2. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION WITH GERALD TRANT, SENIOR ASSISTANT DEPUTY MINISTER AT AGRICULTURE CANADA, ECON COUNSELOR WAS TOLD THERE WAS NO APPARENT BASIS FOR WHELAN'S REFERENCE TO U.S. COMMITMENT OR TO GATT, BUT THAT GOC WAS SERIOUSLY CONCERNED BY U.S. SALE ON TWO COUNTS:
- --CERTAIN LOSS OF MARKET BY CANADA IF U.S. MAKES ADDITIONAL SALE, WHICH GOC UNDERSTANDS IS CONTEMPLATED, OR MARKET LOSSES DUE TO SLOWER THAN PLANNED EXPANSION BY CONASUPO; AND
- --DOWNWARD PRESSURE ON DISPOSAL PRICES EXERTED BY LOWER PRICE U.S. OFFERED TO CONASUPO, WHICH IS LIKELY TO PROVE TO BE EXPENSIVE TO ALL SUPPLIERS IN LONGER RUN.
- 3. TRANT NOTED HE MIGHT RAISE NFDM DISPOSAL ISSUE WHEN HE VISITS WASHINGTON NEXT WEEK TO DISCUSS GOC PLANS REGARDING BROILER MARKETING BOARD AND RESTRUCTURING OF TARIFFS ON FRUIT AND VEGETABLE IMPORTS. HE SAID HE THOUGHT CONSULTATIONS ABOUT CCC AND SIMILAR GOC OPERATIONS INVOLVING NFDM COULD BE USEFUL. DUEMLING

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: SALES, NONFAT DRIED MILK, ALLEGATIONS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 05 apr 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978OTTAWA01711
Document Source: CORE

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D780148-1230 Format: TEL

From: OTTAWA

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Expiration:

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780490/aaaacygq.tel

Line Count: 84 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 250aeeb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION EB

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: 78 STĂTE 84139

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 05 may 2005 Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a

Review Media Identifier: Review Release Date: N/A Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3068386 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: CCC SALE OF NFDM FOR NON-COMMERCIAL USES

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, CA, US

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/250aeeb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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